



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

In Cooperation with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture
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JULY RED MEAT PRODUCTION

WEST VIRGINIA - Commercial red meat production during July 2008 totaled 400,000 pounds. This was down 6 percent from July 2007 and up 50 percent from June 2008 production. Commercial red meat production is the carcass weight after slaughter including beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Individual commodity production is total live weight of commercial slaughter.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 488,000 pounds live weight, down 17 percent from July 2007. Cattle slaughter totaled 400 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 1,238 pounds, was up 50 pounds from a year ago.

Commercial calf slaughter was not published to avoid disclosing individual operations.

Commercial hog slaughter totaled 195,000 pounds live weight, down 6 percent from last year. Hog slaughter totaled 700 head, down 100 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 262 pounds, was up 8 pounds from the previous year.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 55,000 pounds live weight, up from 8,000 pounds last year. Sheep and lamb slaughter totaled 400 head, up 300 head from the previous year. The average live weight, at 134 pounds, was down 9 pounds from the previous year.

UNITED STATES - Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.25 billion pounds in July, up 8 percent from the 3.94 billion pounds produced in July 2007.

Beef production, at 2.37 billion pounds, was 5 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.06 million head, up 6 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was up 4 pounds from the previous year, at 1,273 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.3 million pounds, 16 percent above July a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 87,900 head, up 41 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was down 46 pounds from last year, at 243 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.85 billion pounds, up 12 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 9.47 million head, up 13 percent from July 2007. The average live weight was down 2 pounds from the previous year, at 262 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 13.7 million pounds, was up 1 percent from July 2007. Sheep slaughter totaled 207,800 head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 132 pounds, up 1 pound from July a year ago.

January to July 2008 commercial red meat production was 29.3 billion pounds, up 6 percent from 2007. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 6 percent, pork was up 11 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.

July 2007 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

July 2008 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and 4 Saturdays.

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